

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 081981
ORIGIN NEA-10

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DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:RKMCKEE/PWLANDE/MW
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, PK,US

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON JACK ANDERSON STORY ON
REPROCESSING/A-7 ISSUE

1. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR USE IN RESPONSE TO
QUESTION ON JACK ANDERSON STORY:

Q: THE PRESS REPORTS THAT THEN SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER
OFFERED TO APPROVE THE SALE OF A-7 AIRCRAFT TO PAKISTAN
IN RETURN FOR ITS FOREGOING FULFILLMENT OF ITS CONTRACT
WITH A FRENCH FIRM FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NUCLEAR FUEL
REPROCESSING PLAN. CAN YOU CONFIRM OR DENY THIS REPORT?

A: WE DO NOT COMMENT ON THE DETAILS OF DIPLOMATIC
NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THIS OR PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATIONS AND
FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. I SEE NO REASON TO STRETCH THAT RULE
IN THIS CASE.

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Q: THE PRESS REPORT STATES THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OPPOSED KISSINGER'S OFFERING A-7'S TO PAKISTAN. IS THIS
TRUE?

A: I REALLY CANNOT VERY WELL RESPOND TO THIS QUESTION
EITHER. WE DO NOT DISCUSS OUR INTERNAL DELIBERATIONS.

Q: WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE PAKISTANI REQUEST TO BUY
A-7 AIRCRAFT: HAVE YOU BEEN CONSULTING WITH CONGRESS ON
THIS ISSUE?

A: WE HAVE BEEN HOLDING INFORMAL CONFIDENTIAL CONSULTA-
TIONS WITH MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE COMMITTEES
PRIMARILY CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE NEGOTIATIONS WITH
PAKISTAN ON STOPPING THE SPREAD OF SENSITIVE NUCLEAR
TECHNOLOGY. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN DISCUSSING PAKISTAN'S
REQUESTS FOR CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL ARMS.

Q: THEN YOU ARE LINKING THE TWO ISSUES--PAKISTAN'S
GETTING A NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT FROM FRANCE AND
WHETHER PAKISTAN GETS THE A-7?

A: NO.

Q: DID A STATE REPRESENTATIVE TELL A CONGRESSIONAL COM-
MITTEE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT WAS UPSET ABOUT OR
OPPOSED TO THE POSSIBILITY OF SELLING A-7'S TO PAKISTAN?

A: THESE WERE CONFIDENTIAL CONSULTATIONS AND I CANNOT
COMMENT ON ANY ASPECT OF THEM.

2. THIS MATTER WAS NOT RAISED AT THE APRIL 12 PRESS
BRIEFING.

3. THE ABOVE IS TRANSMITTED FOR YOUR INFORMATION. PLEASE
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RELAY ANY INQUIRIES REGARDING THE ANDERSON STORY TO THE
DEPARTMENT.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, NUCLEAR REACTORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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